



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

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September 29, 2010

Ms. Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region V R-19J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



390822

Dear Ms Hedman:

Re: Proposed inclusion of Gary Development
Landfill, Gary, Lake County, Indiana, on the
National Priorities List

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is providing this letter to convey its support to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) regarding the inclusion of the Gary Development Landfill on the National Priorities List (NPL) of hazardous waste sites. The Gary Development Landfill, U.S. EPA identification number IND077005916, located in Gary, Indiana, consists of an abandoned landfill that illegally accepted hazardous waste during its operations in the 1970's and 1980's. As a result, wetlands located adjacent to the landfill and the Grand Calumet River have become contaminated with heavy metals, semi-volatile organic compounds, and PCBs. The Gary Development Landfill is bordered by the Grand Calumet River to the south, the EJ&E Railroad to the east and north, and AMG Resources Corporation to the west. The source of the contamination in the wetland is the abandoned landfill.

This site qualifies for inclusion on the NPL because:

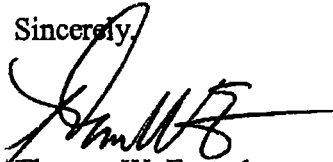
- 1) The site meets the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) criteria for listing on the NPL, scoring sufficiently high pursuant to the Hazard Ranking System (HRS).
- 2) The site requires a long-term response action.

An NPL listing would allow for proper and timely investigation of the nature and extent of the contamination and enable the U.S. EPA to determine cleanup alternatives for the impacted areas, protecting human health and the environment. The NPL listing appears to be the most viable alternative for addressing the existing environmental problems. However, if in the future, the U.S. EPA identifies viable responsible parties that are believed to be capable of and agreeable to performing the cleanup work under an Administrative Order on Consent or Consent Decree, I would support addressing the site as a Superfund Alternative site.

Ms. Susan Hedman
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As the Commissioner of the IDEM, I am authorized by Indiana Governor Mitchell E. Daniels to act in these matters on his behalf. I have considered my staff's recommendations and I fully support the designation of the Gary Development Landfill for inclusion on the NPL. I request that the U.S. EPA assigns a Remedial Project Manager and/or On-Scene Coordinator to implement the process. If you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact Mark Jaworski of the Site Investigation Section at 317/233-2407.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Easterly', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

cc: Sharon Jaffess, U.S. EPA
Pat Hamblin, U.S. EPA
Mayor Rudy Clay
Rep. Charlie Brown
Rep. Lonnie Randolph
Rep. Earline Rogers
Mark Jaworski, IDEM